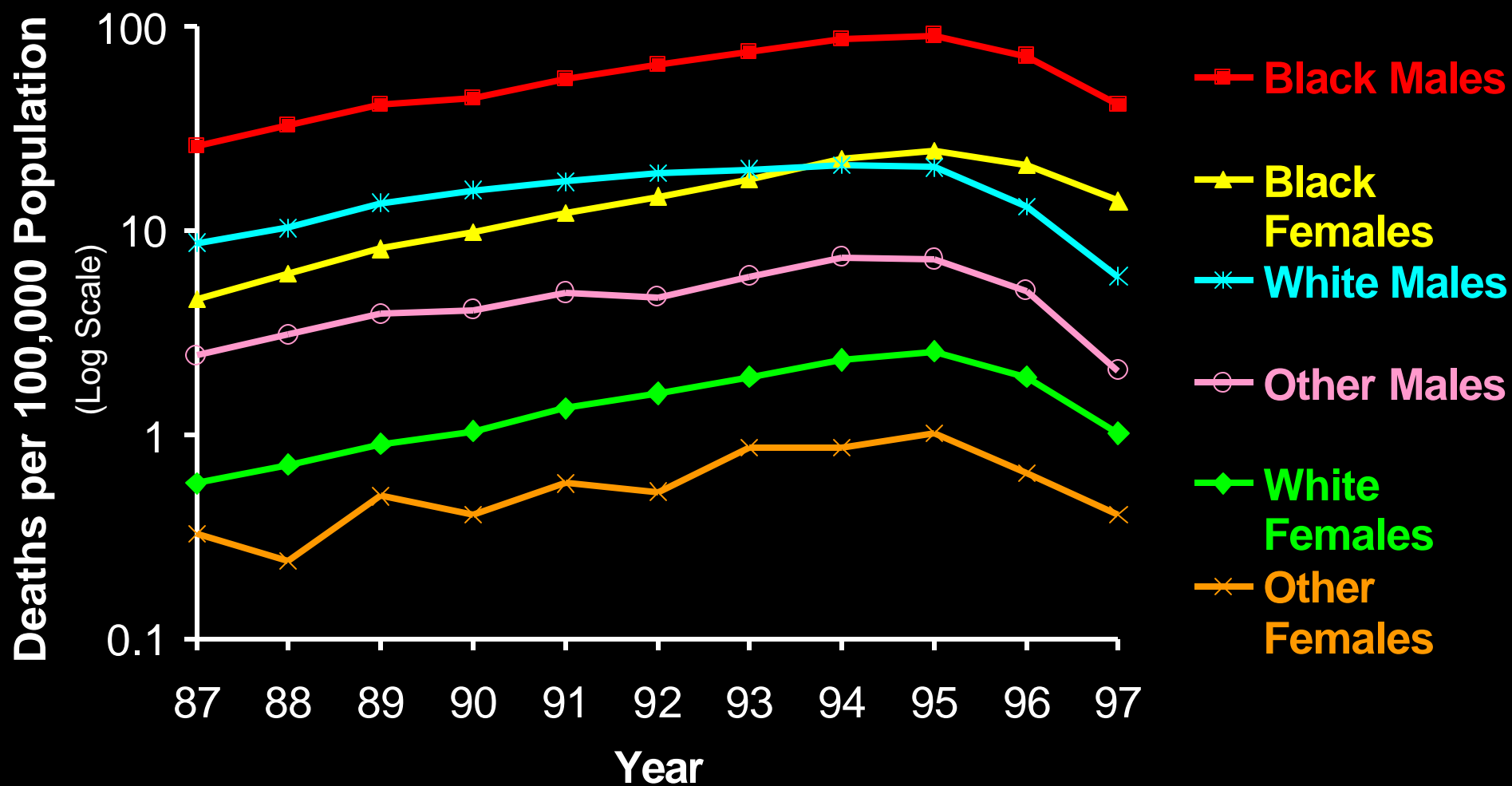


Trends in Age-Adjusted* Annual Rates of Death from HIV Infection, By Sex and Race, USA, 1987-1997



*Using the age distribution of the projected year 2000 U.S. population as the standard

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Among different sex and racial groups, from 1987 to 1995, the age-adjusted rate of death from HIV infection increased fastest among black females and slowest among white males. As a result, the rate among black females surpassed the rate among white males in 1995. The percentage increase in the rate during that period was 425% for black females, 339% for white females, 239% for black males, 212% for other females (including Asians, Pacific Islanders, American Indians, and Alaska Natives), 198% for other males, and 133% for white males.

From 1995 to 1997, the rate decreased fastest among males of white and other races and slowest among black females. The percentage decrease in the rate was 71% among white and other males, 60% among white and other females, 54% among black males, and 44% among black females. These differences in percentage changes may be due to differences in access to treatment, the quality of treatment, or social factors that affect treatment acceptance or adherence. Because of the differences in proportional changes in the death rates, the ratios between the rates among different groups changed. For example, between 1987 and 1997, the ratio of the rate among black males to the rate among white males increased from 3 to 7, while the ratio of the rate among black females to the rate among white females increased from 8 to 13. Persons of Hispanic ethnicity are included in the racial groups shown in this slide, mostly among persons of white race.